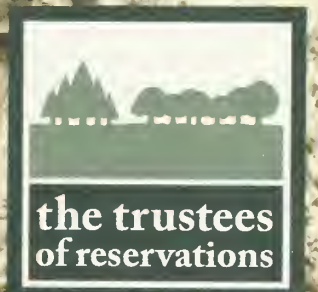


# Special PLACES

FOR MEMBERS AND SUPPORTERS OF THE TRUSTEES OF RESERVATIONS

SPRING 2006 VOLUME 14 NO. 1

## *In Search of Massachusetts*







At 2,978 feet, Monument Mountain is less about size than it is about standpoint. Each year, people scramble up its slopes in search of fresh air and fresh perspective. It was already a destination when it was given to The Trustees a century ago. Today a hike to Squaw Peak is an annual rite for more than 20,000 people.

When I joined The Trustees in 2000, we had 87 reservations and I set out to see all of them within the first year. It was a manic endeavor: I won't say I know them all, but I've *seen* them. At the other end of the spectrum is a friend who goes again and again to Noanet Woodlands, each visit made in anticipation of the changes a day or week can bring.

Where do you go when you are in search of Massachusetts? When you visit our website, [www.thetrustees.org](http://www.thetrustees.org), look for the trip report on your favorite property's page and send us a note. We would love to know how the world looks to you from Chesterfield Gorge or Elliott Laurel or Questing.

Whether you explore one reservation or all 96, membership in The Trustees is your

passport to the best of the Massachusetts landscape. And with 10-20 new properties in the pipeline, that passport continues to secure quality of life in new communities across the state. As we talk about smart growth and the future of our state, it is important to remember that our preserved landscapes don't just happen: they exist because friends and neighbors came together, actively, to protect them.

Caring for irreplaceable landscapes and landmarks – forever – takes resources. After ten years we are implementing a modest increase in membership dues to help fund our land protection work. We are grateful for the part you play in helping protect the quality of life we all treasure. Now more than ever, we hope we can count on your support.

Andy Kendall  
PRESIDENT

We are over 100,000 people like you who want to protect the places they love or who simply like to be outdoors.

Together with our neighbors, we protect the distinct character of our communities and inspire a commitment to special places across the Commonwealth. Our passion is to share with everyone, the irreplaceable landscapes and landmarks that we care for – as we know how valuable they are to our every day lives.

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ON THE COVER: Monument Mountain, Great Barrington, in 1899, the year it was given to The Trustees by Miss Helen C. Butler.

THE TRUSTEES ARCHIVES



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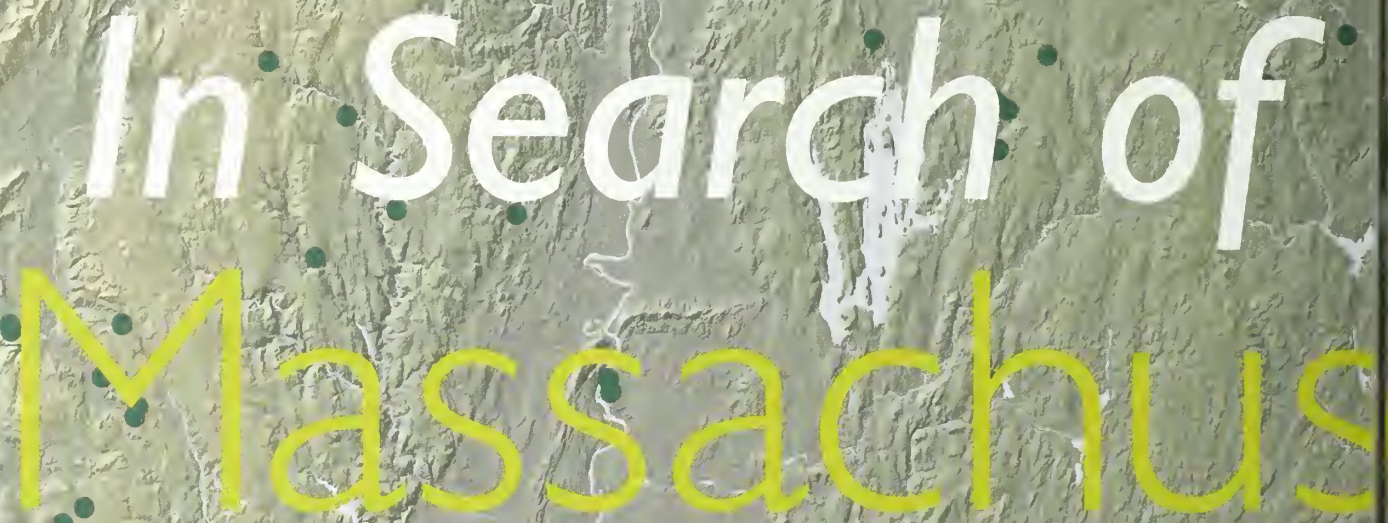
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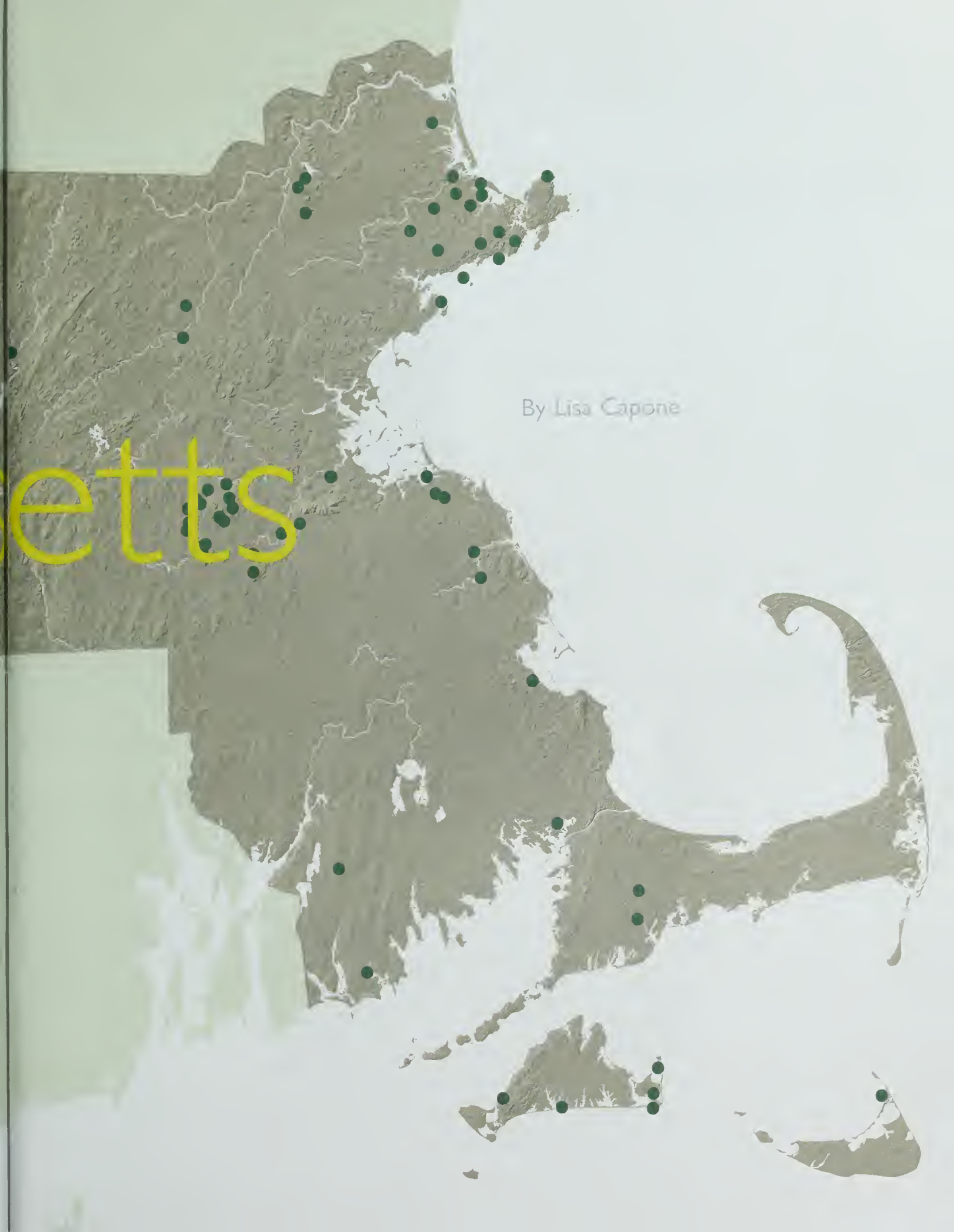
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# In Search of Massachusetts

Monument Mountain already boasted a storied past when The Trustees of Reservations acquired the Great Barrington peak in 1899. A source of inspiration for generations of writers and artists, the mountain's most chronicled literary association came in 1850, when two quintessential American authors – Herman Melville and Nathaniel Hawthorne – met and formed a fast friendship there. Caught in a thunderstorm with other members of a small climbing group, the writers took refuge in a cave where Hawthorne, who had recently published *The Scarlet Letter*, passed along innovative ideas that would greatly influence the writing of Melville's 1851 classic, *Moby-Dick*.



By Lisa Capone

etts



A quest to discover details of the route the two men took in 1850 inspired Great Barrington journalist Bernard Drew to scour the area on more than 400 hikes over a period of seven years (SEE PAGE 9). Fascinated with the single 503-acre Trustees' property, Drew is among thousands of visitors who return to Monument Mountain – or other favorite Trustees' reservations – time after time, year after year.

At the other end of the spectrum are people who decide that, rather than adopting one Trustees' property to visit each year, they'll aspire to see them all. While the first approach provides an intimate connection to and appreciation of one special corner of Massachusetts, the second affords a border-to-border survey of what some describe as many little "states" within the state. For them, what emerges is a picture of Massachusetts as a mosaic of rivers, fields, forests, pastures, and historic landmarks protected in perpetuity.

In September, Boston resident Jamie Hudson became the only Trustees volunteer known to have explored every single reservation. A Trustees member since 1994, Hudson set out to experience each property after being named to the Board of Corporate Trustees in 2000. The former Connecticut resident quickly racked up more of Massachusetts' scenic seascapes, rugged hills, and remote forest jewels than most Bay State natives ever see. The last notch in his belt – a trip to Martha's Vineyard's Long Point Wildlife Refuge – took place September 1, 2005.

"There's nothing like seeing and feeling and doing to really get a sense of things," Hudson says of his 95-reservation tour. Plus, he adds, "It's fun!"

Unlike some who have hopscotched the state through The Trustees' reservations, Hudson said no single property emerged as a favorite. Instead, he found a wealth of beautiful places, ranging from quiet ponds and hillsides in the Berkshires to ocean vistas along the Atlantic. It's the diversity of Massachusetts landscapes, mirrored in Trustees' lands, that strikes those who have visited all or most of the reservations – which now number 96 and cover 23,813 acres in more than 70 communities.

"It's like a museum collection of quaking bogs and mountains and beaches," says Trustees' Creative Director Kate Wollensak, who joined the staff ten years ago from the art world. Wollensak and her colleagues embarked on a "whirlwind properties tour" of more than 80 sites over the course of less than two months. The fall of 2001 odyssey was prompted by a desire to get a better feel for the places depicted in The Trustees' trail guides, newsletters and brochures.



Jamie Hudson

...what emerges is a picture of Massachusetts as a mosaic of rivers, fields, forests, pastures, and historic landmarks protected in perpetuity.





Long Hill, Beverly



The Mission House, Stockbridge

"It was amazing discovering all the properties we're designing about," she says. "There were places where I didn't even think I was in Massachusetts. It was so vast."

The Trustees' reservations see hundreds of thousands of visitors each year, with most people flocking to popular venues such as Crane Beach in Ipswich (400,000 visitors annually); World's End in Hingham (over 30,000); Cape Poge, Wasque, and Long Point on Martha's Vineyard, and Nantucket's Coskata-Coatue Wildlife Refuge. Few hold bragging rights to the secluded, hard-to-reach spots where Hudson stepped foot.

"The most difficult to get to is Medfield Meadow Lots," Hudson recalls. "It's a swamp. There is no land."

Hudson's description doesn't exaggerate. Medfield Meadow Lots' entire 16 acres reside in the Charles River floodplain, comprising three freshwater marshes. There are no trails.

"I had to go there last winter when there was a deep freeze, just to say I'd been there. It was frozen and snow covered, but it was smooshy in some spots," he says.

Also saved for nearly last was a winter trip to similarly trail-free Bridge Island Meadows in Millis, an 80-acre area of dense vegetation



Long Point Wildlife Refuge,  
Martha's Vineyard



engulfed by wetlands. The Trustees' website describes access as "extremely difficult," as Hudson can attest. His determination to explore each reservation was tested there, as well as more than 100 miles west of Millis, where he hiked a mile and a half across a frozen lake to reach the northern shore of Goose Pond, a 112-acre Appalachian wilderness reservation in Lee. No public roads approach Goose Pond reservation – no trails either.

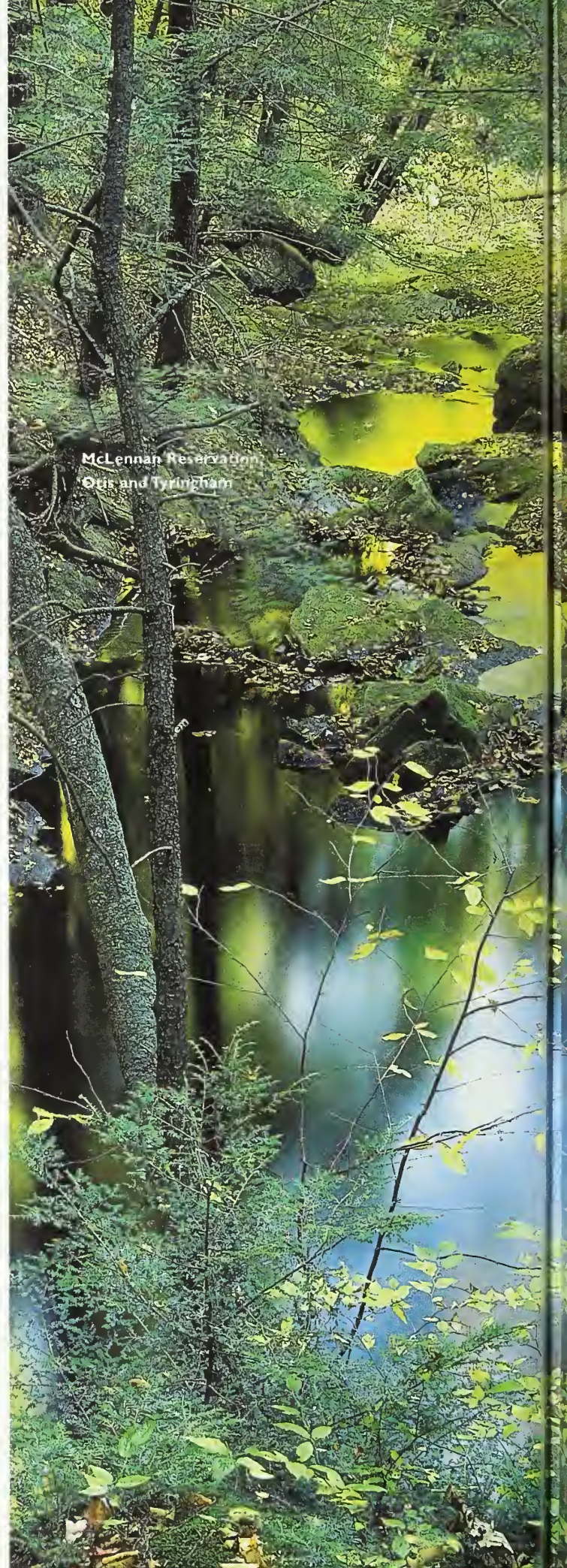
Always prepared with maps and a "plan B," Hudson said he suffered only one scare during his statewide circuit, when he briefly lost his way at Jacobs Hill in Royalston, north of the Quabbin Reservoir. Jacobs Hill offers trails and old logging roads, but the trail leading to the edge of the area's Long Pond "is basically a cliff," Hudson says. Nonetheless, he gamely descended, then lost the trail along the lake and had to retrace his steps and scale the steep path – barely reaching his car before nightfall enrobed the beech and maple forest in darkness.

It was "the closest thing to an adventure," Hudson said, enriching his experience of probing the little-known reaches of Trustees' lands.

While Hudson won't name a favorite reservation, Wollensak doesn't hesitate.

“It [McLennan Reservation] is not a very well visited property. It's magical. The quiet and mossy greenness of it all envelops you. You really expect fairies to greet you!”

McLennan Reservation  
Otis and Tyringham







Rocky Narrows, Sherborn

© S. LAPIDES

R. CHEEK

“The one that really hit me the most was McLennan Reservation,” she says, remembering a “gorgeous” hike in the 594-acre property that straddles the Berkshire County towns of Otis and Tyringham. “It is not a very well visited property. It’s magical. The quiet and mossy greenness of it all envelops you. You really expect fairies to greet you!”

Misery Islands in Salem Sound and the Crane Estate – where she met her husband – round out Wollensak’s list of pet properties. “What’s most important is there is a special place for everyone in every community,” she says. “And those places will always be there. After working here for ten years, I realize how these places touch so many lives and are such a big part of memories. *That’s* what is amazing.”

Wollensak says her appreciation of The Trustees’ work grows daily as she drives from her home in Sterling to her office at Moose Hill Farm in Sharon. During the commute, she passes an orchard that is up for sale and has drawn the interest of developers. The vulnerability





Mistry Islands, Salem

of Wollensak's beloved orchard echoes a scenario increasingly common across the Commonwealth, says Trustees' Vice President of Land Conservation Wes Ward.

"There is definitely a feeling of transition happening in the landscape. Throughout Massachusetts, except in very remote areas, we see scattered random building along our roadsides. As a result, the visual quality of our everyday environment is being fragmented and degraded, and access to the backcountry is becoming much more difficult," says Ward, who has visited nearly all of the organization's reservations. "This is one way The Trustees' properties provide relief to millions of people. We are offering something every day that is becoming rarer and rarer throughout Massachusetts."

Through purchases, bequests, and conservation restrictions, The Trustees have been saving Massachusetts' special places for well over a century (the oldest reservations, Rocky Narrows in Sherborn and Mt. Ann Park in Gloucester, were acquired in 1897). During his 25-year tenure, Ward has seen the list of reservations grow from 65 in 1981 to 96 today. These reservations, as well as private property protected through conservation restrictions, and lands conserved with assistance from The Trustees comprise nearly 55,000 acres statewide – double the amount conserved in 1981, Ward says.

And the roster continues to grow. Since Hudson returned from his 95th reservation tour last September, The Trustees have acquired two more properties. The latest is Cormier Woods (SEE PAGE 10), a 175-acre bequest in Uxbridge that includes an 18th-century gambrel-roofed farmhouse. Ward said that property will open to the public in two years. Also slated to open then is the Trustees' 96th designated reservation, Signal Hill in Canton. The gift of George and Nancy Bates, it covers 117 acres adjacent to the state-owned Blue Hills Reservation, and includes over a mile of frontage on the Neponset River.

With the ink still fresh on The Trustees' announcement of Signal Hill last fall, Hudson is eager to add the new property to his repertoire. "The next time I'm in Canton, I'm going to hike it," he promises, "whether there's a trail there or not."

*Lisa Capone writes about the environment and conservation issues from Melrose, Massachusetts.*

#### DO YOU HAVE A FAVORITE DESTINATION?

Let us know by filling out a trip report on the property pages at [www.thetrustees.org](http://www.thetrustees.org). See you on the trails!



# On the Trail of

# Hawthorne & Melville

A WINGY FOREST JUNKET OF A FEW HOURS' DURATION, more than a century and a half ago, has earned a small corner of the Berkshires a place in American literary history second only to Walden Pond. Nathaniel Hawthorne and Herman Melville on August 5, 1850, struck up a lasting acquaintance on Monument Mountain, one that afforded the *Scarlet Letter* scribe opportunity to converse with an intellectual equal and the *Omoo* man thoughtful direction for his in-progress seagoing adventure about stalking an albino whale.

Hawthorne noted in his diary that he had ascended the Great Barrington knob with a party that included Melville. No "eureka" moment. Melville wrote nothing. Their friendship came later. Cornelius Mathews' foppish articles for *Literary World* let on that "Town Wit," as he called Oliver Wendell Holmes, apparently swallowed too much champagne, as he came "near losing his foothold and tumbling straight down a thousand feet." Melville, he indicated, was intoxicated with the height and "certainly fancying himself among the whalers of the Pacific, for he perches himself astride a jutting rock, like a bowsprit." Hawthorne was a gloomy gus – Mathews called him "Mr. Noble Melancholy."

Picnic host David Dudley Field Jr. arranged dozens of excursions over the years – though none other caught the public's fancy. The Young Men's Association of Pittsfield as early as 1869 staged what is still the best-attended re-enactment – some 175 people traveled to the mountain by train, 25 more by carriage or wagon. "The Monument Mountain party...were driven part way up the mountain, and then climbed on foot to the craggy summit, whence their eyes were regaled with the glorious panoramas," *The Berkshire County Eagle* reported on June 10, 1869. The hoofers surely followed the original route, as

the road and path to the top were not yet touched by colliers or loggers or trail builders. But again, no one wrote down the specifics.

I set out in winter 1999 to determine exactly what route – of at least four viable ones and a handful of less-likelies – the 1850 party took to reach Squaw Peak. Seven years and some 403 hikes over burbling streams and beneath shady hemlock branches later, wearing out two pair of rugged Skechers shoes, absorbing the rudiments of forest forensics from author and naturalist Tom Wessels and accumulating a file drawer of clippings, photocopies and notes, I have identified and mapped 262 charcoal hearth sites on the mountain, four quarries, two cabin sites, four tan bark roads and uncountable charcoal wagon roads, all testimony to Monument's now well-disguised industrial past.

I am satisfied, largely through evidence on the land, that today's Indian Monument and Squaw Peak trails on Monument Mountain Reservation shadow, but only partially follow, the ones (hidden but still there) taken in 1850. That in no way dims the fun of the Berkshire Historical Society's re-staging of the literary picnic, an annual event since 1977. Someone always recites William Cullen Bryant's verse, "Monument Mountain," though the toast is non-alcoholic – considering the antics of the original, you can understand why.

*Bernard A. Drew is a journalist and historian. He lives in Great Barrington. The annual hike up Monument Mountain co-sponsored by The Trustees is scheduled for August 3, 2006.*

Bernard  
Drew



## DID YOU KNOW...

The Old Home, one of the Concord homes in which Hawthorne lived, is owned by The Trustees. It is open from April to October. By October 18, 1869, Hawthorne was in the mountains.



# CORMIER WOODS

## *A Seamless Transaction*

By Electa Kane Tritsch

A HOSIERY DISTRIBUTOR MAY NOT BE YOUR IMAGE OF a committed conservationist. You may not have foreseen that the younger son of an immigrant dairy farmer would be a power in Massachusetts town affairs. James Cormier, who died in November, was all of these and more. Thanks to his carefully planned generosity, The Trustees will open a new reservation – Cormier Woods – in Uxbridge, within the next two years.

By all accounts, Mr. Cormier was a careful man – meticulous, some described him. He served on the Uxbridge Finance Committee for nine years and is remembered as a man who took time to study the issues.

The stunning stone foundation of the house at Cormier Woods.





Some decisions he kept closer to his chest than others, including disposition of his family's 175-acre dairy farm. Mr. Cormier spent at least twenty years working on that decision and ultimately contacted The Trustees.

"He had watched us over many years," remembers Wes Ward, Trustees' Vice President for Land Conservation. "He liked the fact that we were as interested in historic buildings and stone walls as in land. His family's farm was a legacy he had worked all his life to save, and he was not going to make a mistake."

The Cormier farm, located on the Uxbridge-Mendon line, was bought by Cormier's parents, Theodore and Bertha (Kosloski) Cormier, about 1930. The property includes a classic gambrel-roofed colonial farmhouse

and a rare 18th-century barn that reflect the property's long agricultural heritage. After he retired from Hanes in 1986, Cormier became guardian of that heritage, painstakingly restoring stone walls tumbled by frost; maintaining a rock garden built by his mother; tending blueberry and raspberry stands; building additions in keeping with what came before.

To stay busy, Cormier opened a mail-order business called Stocking Style offering "Hard-to-Find Basic Women's Hosiery" through ads in *Yankee* magazine. He developed a loyal following. Ward remembers getting a glimpse into Cormier's home office. "He opened a closet and behind that door, it was packed, floor to ceiling, with thin, rectangular hosiery boxes. The phone was always ringing and he always answered it!"

Cormier rarely missed a meeting having to do with the town. He was very strong in his convictions concerning what was best for the community. He took active care of his forests and fields, considering himself a caretaker to his lands for future generations.

Reflecting on this quiet man's accomplishments, Ward observes: "Mr. Cormier was frugal and careful. He lived simply, served his community and somehow saved enough money as a small businessman to ensure that this place would be his family's enduring legacy. He lived his own version of the American Dream."

## He lived his own version of the American Dream.



### A Gift for Tomorrow

With a bequest to The Trustees of Reservations, you can leave a gift of special places and experiences for generations to come. Naming The Trustees in your will – or designating part of your retirement plan – can support land conservation, a favorite reservation, or programs for children and families.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT PLANNED GIVING  
PLEASE VISIT [WWW.THETRUSTEES.ORG/PG.CFM](http://WWW.THETRUSTEES.ORG/PG.CFM)

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- ☐ I have included The Trustees in my will/trust/estate plan and wish to join *The Semper Virens Society*.

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© T. KATES

SOMETHING WILL HAPPEN

# Keeping 'Em Down

ANNELIESE COHEN DIDN'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT CHICKENS — EXCEPT how to cook one — until her son, Jacob, developed a fondness for birds when he was five years old.

She's not sure how it happened, but now Cohen and a friend are leading a 4H poultry club at Weir River Farm in Hingham.

"I've never handled animals except a cat or a dog," says Cohen, "but my children wish they lived on a farm."

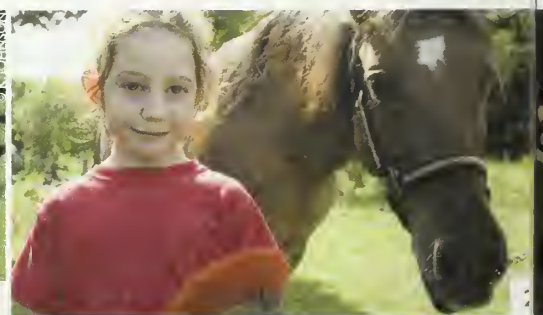
At regular meetings, Cohen and Suzanne Bosnian guide the children in collecting eggs and changing the chickens' water. They even play a game called Heritage Breed Bingo to help the kids learn about rare breeds of chickens.

"The kids love it," she says. "They're enthusiastic about anything, especially the hands-on stuff." They are anxiously awaiting the arrival of some new baby chicks this spring.

Cohen's transition from suburban mom to mother hen is not unusual at Weir River Farm. Here, families who wander into the barn on a Saturday afternoon often become hooked on the welcoming and informal atmosphere that evolves when folks start hanging around a barn.

Stroll along the footpath from the parking lot to the barn this spring and you're likely to encounter children cuddling baby animals, mucking out stalls or working in the garden, while parents follow their children's lead.

Erica Boyle, a mother of four from Scituate, says her experiences at the farm all have been child-led.



places to be  
when spring  
has sprung...

## 1 Fields of Fern and Flowers

### BARTHOLOMEW'S COBBLE

Weatogue Road, Ashley Falls, Sheffield  
413.229.5600

High above the Housatonic River, two rocky knolls, or cobbles, make fertile ground for a unique array of plants, and one of the widest ranges of ferns in North America. After you've appreciated the fields of springtime wildflowers and the stupendous view of the Housatonic River Valley, hike into the surrounding forests, home to countless plants and animals. *Open year-round, daily, sunrise to sunset. Members: FREE. Nonmembers: \$5. Children (6-12) \$1. Children (under 6) FREE.*

## 2 Open Barnyard & Walking Trail

WEIR RIVER FARM ■ Turkey Hill Lane  
Hingham ■ 781.740.7233

This former private country estate features 75 acres of fields, pasture and woodlands. Follow a path from the parking lot at the top of Turkey Hill to the barnyard where you'll find goats, sheep, horses, chickens and pigs. Open barnyard is a must for families during spring and summer weekends. Don't forget to trek the mile-long trail that skirts the barnyard for a breath of country fresh air. *Open year-round, daily, sunrise to sunset. Admission fee for barnyard tours. Trails FREE to all.*



# On the Farm

By Mary Mulkerin Donius

"When you start to hang out at the farm, some kids end up playing, others clean out stalls. No one is required to participate on any prescribed level." And that, Boyle is convinced, is the key. "When kids feel less pressured, they do more," she says.

Weir River Farm is a hub of activity for children and families who take advantage of the property's many programs all year long. Sheep shearing is an annual springtime event, and dozens of children participate in the spring and summer Farmhands program where they learn to care for animals. For some, the leisurely stroll along the paths that skirt the barn is enough. The farm borders The Trustees' Turkey Hill and Whitney and Thayer Woods and shares a border with Wompatuck State Park. It's the gateway to more than 5,000 acres of open space in Hingham, Cohasset and Norwell.

Last fall, Weir River Farm began working closely with 4H, a program which has drawn children and their parents from all over the South Shore and beyond.

"We wanted to find a way to make a lasting connection with kids," explains Farm Steward Mary Doherty. "Our goal is to bring children in

and introduce them to animals and farming and other kids who have the same interests they do."

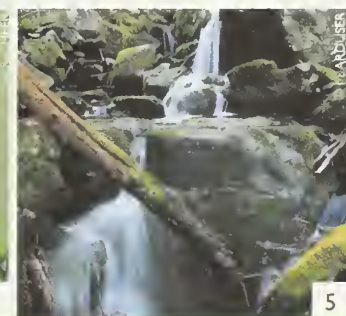
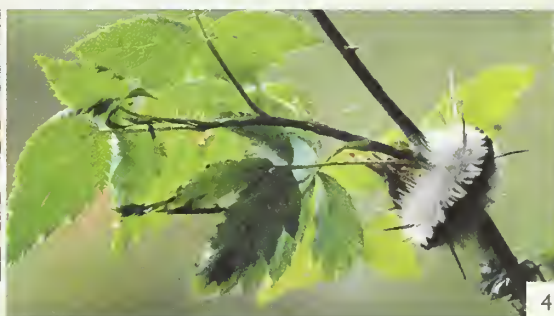
Since the program began, dozens of children and parent volunteers have become more involved in 4H and the horse, sheep, pig and chicken clubs at Weir River Farm. Many parents, like Cohen, had no prior experience and found they learned right along with the kids.

Signe McCullough and her children became involved in the 4H sheep club and spent the winter learning about how to card, spin and dye wool. But for McCullough, the farm represents so much more. "Kids have so much pressure on them today," she says. "At the farm they can just run around and be outside instead of in the car running from one activity to another."

Meg Connolly, the farm's Education Coordinator, agrees and adds that kids – and parents – don't need a background in farming or animals to enjoy Weir River Farm.

"Coming here is like taking a step back in time," says Connolly. "There's not a lot of flashiness; we don't have a gift shop. People just trickle in and linger."

*Hingham resident Mary Mulkerin Donius is a freelance writer and member of The Trustees of Reservations.*



## 3 Pink Buds on the Forest Floor

ELLIOT LAUREL

Route 101, Phillipston ■ 978.840.4446

Stroll through this tranquil woodland of white pines and hemlocks in springtime and you'll be treated to thickets of blooming mountain laurel. The gorgeous pink buds, which open in mid-June to reveal brilliant white flowers, brighten the shady floor of the forest and create an ideal spot for a picnic lunch. Open year-round, daily, sunrise to sunset. FREE.

## 4 Things That Fly and Crawl

COPICUT WOODS ■ Indian Town Road  
Fall River ■ 508.679.2115

Here in Copicut Woods, the gateway to the Southeastern Massachusetts Bioreserve, you'll spy vernal pools, filled by melted snow and precipitation, which lure migrating salamanders and wood frogs before drying up by summer. Other signs of spring: blossoming dogwoods, ladyslippers, fruit trees, and any of nearly 100 species of birds. Open year-round, daily, sunrise to sunset. FREE.

## 5 Melting Snow, Rushing Water

CHESTERFIELD GORGE

River Road, Chesterfield ■ 413.684.0148

Water from melted snow rushes downstream while salmon rush upstream at this mighty gorge. Follow a cliff-top trail to take in rich pockets of wildflowers and a vista that's especially stunning in springtime, thanks to the ice chunks and torrents of water created by winter's melting snow. Trout are abundant and a catch-and-release area is popular with visitors. Open year-round, daily, 8 AM to sunset. FREE for members. Nonmembers: \$2. Children under 17: FREE.





# Doing What Comes Naturally

By Mary Mulkerin Donius

WHEN BEAVERS USE THEIR SHARP INCISORS TO TOPPLE A TREE, or their long, hand-like paws to construct a dam, they are doing much more than meeting their own needs. They are often creating nurturing habitat for other species, and, sometimes, a huge image problem for themselves.

“Beavers are one of those species that is perceived as causing problems,” says Russ Hopping, Ecology Program Manager for The Trustees of Reservations. “They are amazing engineers and incredibly persistent, but sometimes their activities can interfere with our activities.”

According to Hopping, beavers are a vital component of the Massachusetts landscape and are considered as a “keystone” species – one that has a disproportionate impact on the community relative to its abundance. And that has positive, as well as negative connotations.

On the positive side, felled trees and wetlands created by beaver dams provide habitat for lots of other animals, such as ducks, herons, and egrets, to name a few. New wetlands have the added benefit of helping to control downstream flooding by steady and slow release of flood waters. Slow release also serves as drought control. The wetlands they create also attract and protect endangered species such as the spotted turtle, American bittern and pied-billed grebe.

Still, there are times when beavers can create a nuisance for humans. Even when they are in the wild. That’s why The Trustees

Beavers are biologically pre-programmed to build dams when they hear the sound of running water.

recently adopted new beaver management guidelines which aim at peaceful coexistence.

“Beavers are biologically pre-programmed to build dams when they hear the sound of running water,” says Hopping. “Unfortunately, that can sometimes lead to problems for human neighbors.”

Dam building activity can lead to clogging of

culverts and drain ditches. It can also lead to costly repairs and inconvenience when septic systems become clogged, roads become damaged and hiking trails impassable. Beavers are blamed when majestic trees are toppled and alter the landscape in other ways that is aesthetically displeasing to humans. Of course, they’re usually just doing what comes naturally to them. The challenge for humans is to find a way to let beavers do what comes naturally.

“Our philosophy is one of tolerance as much as possible,” says Hopping of the guidelines, noting that beavers in Massachusetts were nearly trapped out of existence by the 1930s. They were reintroduced so successfully that the most recent count has their numbers in excess of 70,000. Visitors to Trustees’ properties, including Peaked Mountain, love to watch them swim, play and work.

With the exception of humans, no other animal affects the environment so profoundly. Beavers weigh between 45 and 60 pounds. They are strong swimmers and vegetarians. They are monogamous and mate for life. Ecologists describe them as social and peaceful creatures.

“Where we can, I think we need to allow beavers the space to do their thing since they’re so important for natural systems,” says Hopping, adding dryly, “Nothing a brook trout does makes habitat for other species.”



The Emerald Necklace  
Park System, Boston

# The 'Smart' in Smart Growth

COMMONWEALTH IS A JOURNAL OF POLITICS, ideas, and civic life in Massachusetts published by the nonprofit think tank, MassINC. In a recent special issue, *Constructing the Future*, MassINC took on the subject of growth and development. We asked a panel of conservation leaders\* to respond to the issue from a 'green' perspective and posed the question, "How smart is smart growth without conservation?" Here are some of their thoughts.

## **Nature and culture are key to the quality of life.**

The New England we treasure developed over centuries as a region of well-defined cities and villages in a working landscape of fields and forests. While village density and transit-oriented development are a good start, we want to see a greater emphasis on natural ("green infrastructure") and historic resources as key components of smart growth.

## **Green space makes communities work.**

If smart growth is to be the antidote to sprawl, we need to invest in a well-distributed network of green space – parks, trails, watersheds, farmland, forests, marshes, and other natural habitats. As we become more urbanized, strategic natural areas (both large and small) near urban and suburban centers will provide critical open areas for reflection and recreation. Charles Eliot, who founded The Trustees and the Metropolitan Park

System, recognized this need in the 1890s and it's no less important today. But location matters: as we guide development toward places with public infrastructure, we need, simultaneously, to conserve land that is critical for water quality, habitat and recreation, and preserve large woodland reserves to keep remote holdings from becoming fragmented.

## **Losing 1 to 2 Boston Commons a day is not smart.**

Smart growth policies take time to work. Meanwhile, with 40-75 acres<sup>1</sup> of open space haphazardly spoiled every day, we are losing the choice of conservation. Conservation must be an integral part of growth and our most important green space must be protected before it's threatened by development. With three million acres of undeveloped and unprotected land in Massachusetts our current conservation funding is falling far short of ensuring that thoughtful choices will be made. We can do better than 49th in per capita funding for parks and recreation.<sup>2</sup>

## **There's more to it than beauty...**

It's difficult to explain why saving land is essential – especially if it doesn't appear to be spectacular. But there won't be economic growth and development without water. The land above our water supply aquifers may not be as inspiring at first glance as some other places we've fought to preserve but

by protecting the land we protect the water – one of the most valuable resources we can leave to our children and our grandchildren.

## **Share the costs, share the benefits.**

Smart growth needs conservation – throughout the entire state. When we help meet the needs of urban and suburban communities for beautiful, accessible parks and greenways we will have a greater chance of gaining widespread support for preserving farms and forests in the Berkshires or the Connecticut River Valley.

## **Don't be shy.**

If our Governor and legislators don't know what we care about, their decisions aren't likely to reflect our values. Let them – and us – know what you think. Email us at [FindYourPlace@ttor.org](mailto:FindYourPlace@ttor.org).

*\*Our panel: Wesley Ward is The Trustees' Vice President for Land Conservation; Katherine Abbott is the Director of Common Cents and the Conservation & Recreation Campaign and the former Commissioner of the MA Department of Conservation & Recreation. Kristina Egan is Director of the Massachusetts Smart Growth Alliance. Nancy Goodman is Vice President for Policy of the Environmental League of Massachusetts.*

<sup>1</sup>Massachusetts Audubon Society, *Losing Ground*, 2003

<sup>2</sup>Governing Magazine Sourcebook, July 2005



# SPRING EVENTS!

MARCH THROUGH JUNE 2006

Find more to do online – visit us at [www.thetrustees.org](http://www.thetrustees.org)

## CAPE COD & THE ISLANDS

Sunday, March 19 | 1–2:30PM  
**Tisbury Pond Club Walk**

LONG POINT WILDLIFE REFUGE, WINTER SIDE  
(DEEP BOTTOM ROAD) 508.693.7662

Hear the tale of a special hunting club whose members yearned to keep Long Point open and wild, and visit our new wildlife viewing blind. *FREE to all.*

Saturday, May 6 | 9AM–12NOON  
**Mytoi Spring Clean Up**

MYTOI GARDEN, CHAPPAQUIDDICK  
508.693.7662

The Trustees provide lunch as a thank you for spending a spring morning caring for the Island's only Japanese-style garden. Bring work gloves, rakes, and shovels. Meet at Mytoi on Chappaquiddick. *Please pre-register.*

Sunday, May 21 | 1–4PM  
**Let's Go On A Quest!**

CAPE POGE WILDLIFE REFUGE,  
CHAPPAQUIDDICK 508.693.7662

Leave your car behind and hop aboard a Trustees' oversand vehicle for a treasure hunt! An afternoon at Cape Poge will be the greatest prize! Transportation from the Chappy-side of the Edgartown Ferry is available.

*Pre-registration required. Space is limited.*

*Member: Adult \$7; Child \$3.*

*Nonmembers: Adult \$10; Child \$5.*



Daily, Memorial Day – Columbus Day  
**Natural Side of the Vineyard:**  
**Cape Poge Natural History Tour**  
**Fishing Discovery Tour**  
**Cape Poge Lighthouse Tour**  
**Wildlife Canoe/Kayak Tour**

CAPE POGE WILDLIFE REFUGE, CHAPPAQUIDDICK  
508.627.3599

Unforgettable journeys await as you climb aboard our oversand vehicles to explore Chappaquiddick's sandy barrier beach, rare maritime forest, marsh and scenic lighthouse with our naturalist guides. *For times, prices, and program details, visit [www.thetrustees.org](http://www.thetrustees.org).*

Daily, June – October | 9:30AM & 1:30PM  
(Tour duration: 2.5 hours)

**Natural History Tour**

COSKATA-COATUE WILDLIFE REFUGE,  
NANTUCKET 508.228.6799

Discover the human history and natural wonders of Nantucket's most expansive barrier beach on this guided oversand vehicle tour. A climb to the top of Great Point is your reward. *Members: Adult \$30; Child (12 and under) \$15. Nonmembers: Adult \$40; Child (12 and under) \$15.*



Volunteers needed!

Sunday, April 16 | 1–2:30PM

**12,000 Years of Open Space**

WASQUE RESERVATION, CHAPPAQUIDDICK 508.693.7662

Unravel an extraordinary human history as you walk along timeless pathways through rare habitat saved forever by a community effort. Meet at Fisherman's parking lot. *FREE*





© K. JOHNSON

Sunday, May 28 | 9AM

## Lady Slipper Walk

PEAKED MOUNTAIN, MONSON

978.248.9455

Let the spring wildflowers be your inspiration on this naturalist-led hike to the summit of Peaked Mountain.

*FREE to all.*

Daily, June – October | 1–2PM

## To the Lighthouse

GREAT POINT LIGHTHOUSE, COSKATA-COATUE WILDLIFE REFUGE, NANTUCKET 508.228.6799

Climb to the top and enjoy the view, while learning about this historic lighthouse.

*Transportation to Great Point is not provided.*

*Members only. FREE.*

Daily, Memorial Day – Columbus Day

9AM–5PM (Duration 4 or 8 hours)

## Poucha Pond Self-Guided Discovery Tour

CAPE POGE WILDLIFE REFUGE, CHAPPAQUIDDICK 508.627.3599

Enjoy a self-guided kayak paddle through the salt waters of Poucha Pond! *Members only: 4 hours for \$25 or 8 hours for \$35 (per canoe or kayak).*

Daily, Memorial Day – Columbus Day

9AM–5PM (Quest duration: 3 hours)

## Cape Poge Quest

CAPE POGE WILDLIFE REFUGE CHAPPAQUIDDICK 508.627.3599

A remarkable self-guided journey waits as your 4x4 vehicle takes you through 516 acres of Cape Poge Wildlife Refuge on a hunt for the Quest box! *Cape Poge Wildlife Refuge and Wasque Reservation oversand vehicle permit required. Quest clues and map available at Chappaquiddick Gatehouses.*

Daily, April – December | Sunrise to Sunset

## Menemsha Hills Quest

MENEMSHA HILLS RESERVATION, CHILMARK 508.693.7662

Discover the many treasures that Menemsha Hills has to offer during this fun self-guided family adventure. Quest duration: 3 hours. *FREE to all. Quest clues and map available at Menemsha Hills entrance bulletin board.*

## CENTRAL REGION

SPRING WORKDAYS

## Let's Start Spring Cleaning!

QUABBIN MANAGEMENT UNIT 978.248.9455

Your help is crucial to the success of our mission! Come out and help us clean up our trails. It's the perfect medicine for cabin fever! *Tools provided.*

Saturday, April 1 | 9AM–2PM

ELLIOT LAUREL, PHILLIPSTON  
*Meet at the main entrance.*

Saturday, April 8 | 9AM–2PM

SWIFT RIVER RESERVATION, PETERSHAM  
*Meet at Nichewaung Tract.*

Saturday, April 15 | 9AM–2PM

PEAKED MOUNTAIN, MONSON  
*Meet at the main parking lot.*

Saturday, April 29 | 9AM–2PM

THE TULLY TRAIL, ROYALSTON  
*Meet at Tully Lake Campground.*

Saturday, May 20 | 9AM–2PM

BROOKS WOODLAND PRESERVE, PETERSHAM  
Our ecologist will join us to share his knowledge of the property and our management efforts. *Meet at the Quaker Drive parking lot.*

Saturday, April 22 | 9AM–1PM

(Rain Date: May 6)

## If These Woods Could Talk

SWIFT RIVER RESERVATION, NICHEWAUNG TRACT 978.248.9455

Walk with naturalist Bob Clark and learn how the Nichewaung Tract has been shaped by farming, forestry and the 1938 hurricane. *Bring a lunch. FREE.*

Saturday and Sunday, May 6 & 7 | 9AM–3PM

(Rain Date: May 12 & 13)

## Will Work for Campsite

TULLY LAKE CAMPGROUND 978.248.9455

It's a lot of work getting the campground ready. Come help us on Saturday and spend the night on us as a reward.

*FREE, but reservations are required.*

Saturday, May 20 | 10AM–3PM

(Rain Date: May 21)

## Rock House Reservation Work Day

ROCK HOUSE RESERVATION,  
WEST BROOKFIELD 978.840.4446

It time for spring cleaning at the Rock House Reservation! We will be maintaining the grounds, trails, and the butterfly garden. *Bring work gloves, water and a lunch; we provide tools and materials. FREE.*

Friday, May 26 | 2PM

## Tully Lake Campground Opens!

TULLY LAKE CAMPGROUND, ROYALSTON 978.248.9455

Nestled on the forested shores of Tully Lake, the Campground offers walk-in tent sites, modern facilities and exceptional opportunities for hiking, mountain biking and paddling. *Call for rates and reservations.*

## GREATER BOSTON

Saturday, March 25 | 10AM–12NOON

## WANTED: Family Seeks House w/Nursery...

FRANCIS WILLIAM BIRD PARK, EAST WALPOLE 508.668.6136

Bluebirds were once common neighbors in New England towns. Help us bring them back by building a bluebird house for Bird Park and one for your own backyard! *Space is limited. Pre-registration required. Suggested donation for materials: \$8 for a house of your own.*



Friday, April 14 – Columbus Day  
Guided tours Monday-Saturday | 10AM–5PM  
Sundays & Holidays | 12NOON–5PM  
(Last tour by 4:30PM)

### Season Opening at The Old Manse

THE OLD MANSE, CONCORD 978.369.3909

The Old Manse has witnessed and hosted many of America's famous events and people. Learn more about the house and its stories on a guided tour. *Members: FREE. Nonmembers: Adult \$8; Senior/Student \$7; Child \$5.*

TBA (April)

Visit [www.thetrustees.org](http://www.thetrustees.org) for details

### Spring Clean-Up

FRANCIS WILLIAM BIRD PARK,

EAST WALPOLE 508.668.6136

Roll up your sleeves and help the Friends of Francis William Bird Park put that special touch on our special place! *Pre-registration is helpful, but not required.*

### Monday, April 17 | 7:30–11AM & 11AM–5PM Patriot's Day

THE OLD MANSE, CONCORD 978.369.3909

Celebrate the original New England Patriots! Purchase refreshments at the early morning sutler's tent next to Concord's famous parade route. Visit the Manse for guided tours from 11AM–5PM. Last tour by 4:30PM.

*House tours: Members: FREE.*

*Nonmembers: Adult \$8; Senior/Student \$7; Child \$5.*



### Monday, April 17 | 7:30PM 5th Annual Candlelight Remembrance Ceremony

THE OLD MANSE, CONCORD 978.369.3909

A backdrop of 600 luminaries around the river sets the stage for patriotic music and a remembrance of the past held at the North Bridge. Bring a flashlight and your voice. *FREE.*

Wednesday, April 19 | 6AM

### Dawn Salute

THE OLD MANSE, CONCORD 978.369.3909

Join the 201-year-old Concord Independent Battery, the oldest horse-drawn artillery unit in America, for its traditional cannon salute in honor of the events that started the American Revolution. *FREE to all.*

Saturday, May 6 | 9:30–11AM

### Gardening with Native Plants

FRANCIS WILLIAM BIRD PARK, EAST WALPOLE  
508.668.6136

Native plants are beautiful and practical. We will plant a small flowerbed in the park and show you how you can use native plants at home. *Please pre-register. FREE to all.*

Saturday, May 13 | 8–9:30AM

### Feathered Friends Bird Walk

FRANCIS WILLIAM BIRD PARK, EAST WALPOLE  
508.668.6136

Celebrate International Migratory Bird Day by discovering the sights and sounds of the birds in our backyard. *Please pre-register. FREE to all.*

Mother's Day, Sunday, May 14 | 2PM

Father's Day, Sunday June 18 | 2PM

### Parents and Children:

### Growing Up at The Old Manse

THE OLD MANSE, CONCORD 978.369.3909

What was young Ralph Waldo Emerson like? How were Nathaniel and Sophia Hawthorne as new parents? Celebrate these special days learning what it was like living in times past. *Spaces limited. Reservations and pre-payment required. Members: Adult \$6, Child \$4. Nonmembers: Adult \$12; Child \$8. One adult FREE with each paid child's admission.*

### Saturday, May 20 | 10AM–5PM (Last tour at 4:30) Remembering our Armed Forces

THE OLD MANSE, CONCORD 978.369.3909

From the American Revolution through World War I, residents of The Manse have a long history of service to our nation. We welcome current and former military for guided tours. *FREE to those presenting military I.D. and their immediate families. Regular admission rates apply to others.*

Saturday, May 20 | 10AM–5PM

### Decoration Day

### Geranium and Plant Sale

THE OLD MANSE, CONCORD 978.369.3909

The New England tradition of planting geraniums for Decoration Day (now Memorial Day) continues! Proceeds benefit educational programming and preservation of The Old Manse. Plants provided by Colonial Gardens of Concord.

Saturday, June 10 | 10AM–12:30PM

### Paddling Back in Time

THE OLD MANSE, CONCORD 978.369.3909

Take a guided canoe trip down the Concord River to The Old Manse and see what inspired Emerson, Thoreau, and Hawthorne in this timeless landscape. This program is offered monthly through October. *Reservations and pre-payment required. Members: Adult \$8; Child \$5. Nonmembers: Adult \$16; Child \$10.*

TBA (Beginning in June)

Visit [www.thetrustees.org](http://www.thetrustees.org) for details

### Concerts at the Music Court

FRANCIS WILLIAM BIRD PARK, EAST WALPOLE  
508.668.6136

Enjoy summer evenings with family and friends on the lawn at the historic Music Court. The music is free and the Friends of Francis William Bird Park sell refreshments to benefit the Park.



© NEIL GORDON

Tuesdays, May 30, June 6, June 20 & Saturday, June 17 | 9:30AM

### The Gardener's Tale

BRADLEY ESTATE, CANTON 781.821.2996

From the formal garden to the kitchen garden and everything in between, see the Bradley Estate through the eyes of those who take care for it year-round. *Please pre-register. FREE to all.*



## NORTHEAST REGION

Sunday, March 5 | 1–3PM

Sunday, April 2 | 1–3PM

### Wildlife Walks

CASTLE HILL AT THE CRANE ESTATE, IPSWICH  
978.356.4351

The beach is only the beginning! The Crane Estate is an ecological treasure and the perfect place for a stroll. Meet at the Inn Gate at Castle Hill, parking at barn area.

Members: FREE. Nonmembers: \$5 for parking

Saturday, March 18 | 8–10AM

### Marsh Meander

CASTLE HILL AT THE CRANE ESTATE, IPSWICH  
978.356.4351

Enjoy a morning meander along the shore where shipbuilding ruins and historic cranberry bogs reveal bygone times. Meet at the Inn Gate at Castle Hill. Please pre-register.

Members: FREE. Nonmembers: Adult \$5.

Saturday, April 1, May 6, June 3 | 1–3PM

### Landscape Discovery Stroll

APPLETON FARMS, IPSWICH/HAMILTON  
978.356.5728

Stroll through the Grass Rides, along the Great Pasture, and visit the four Appleton family memorials that formerly adorned Harvard's Gore Hall Library. Meet at Highland Street parking area. Please pre-register.

Members: FREE. Nonmembers: \$5.

Sunday, April 9, May 14 (Mothers FREE),

June 11 | 3–5PM

### Farmstead Tour

APPLETON FARMS, IPSWICH/HAMILTON  
978.356.5728

Witness the rhythms and relics of New England's oldest working farm, including a visit to the barns and dairy (ordinarily closed to the public). Meet at Waldingfield Road parking area.

Please pre-register. Members: FREE. Nonmembers: \$5.

## LONG HILL HORTICULTURE WORKSHOPS, LECTURES & TOURS

Tuesday, April 11 | 10AM

### Spring Pruning

Tuesday, April 25 | 10AM

### Rethinking the Suburban Landscape with Tom Strangfeld

Tuesday, May 9 | 10AM

### Dogwoods for Your Garden with Paul Cappiello

Tuesday, May 23 | 3:30–5PM

### Planting a Vegetable Garden with Children: A Family Project



Tuesday, June 13 | 10AM

### Making a Succulent Wreath

Tuesday, June 27 | 10AM

### Softwoods Cutting Workshop

LONG HILL, BEVERLY 978.921.1944

For information about upcoming workshops and lectures visit [www.thetrustees.org](http://www.thetrustees.org).

Wednesday, April 19 | 10AM–12NOON

Saturday, April 22 | 10AM–12NOON

### Wildlife Neighbors on the Neck

RECOMMENDED FOR FAMILIES

CRANE BEACH AT THE CRANE ESTATE, IPSWICH  
978.356.4351

See Castle Neck through the eyes of a naturalist and enhance your own wildlife observation skills. Meet at the Beach Gate. Beach admission applies. Please pre-register. Members: Adult \$5. Nonmembers: Adult \$10.

Friday, April 21 | 3–4:30PM

### Meet the Cows

RECOMMENDED FOR FAMILIES

APPLETON FARMS, IPSWICH/HAMILTON 978.356.5728

Meet our new calves and their moms and

## The Stevens-Coolidge Place Plant Sale

NORTH ANDOVER 978.682.3580

Friday, May 19 (Rain or Shine) | 5–8PM

### Members-Only Preview Sale

Avoid the crowd and get first pick of the plants. A great selection of choice and unusual plants will be available, including: peonies, trillium, alpines, and old-fashioned roses. Enjoy an evening stroll through the gardens or a peek at the historic house interiors.

Membership card required.

Saturday, May 20 (Rain or Shine)

10AM–2PM

### Plant Sale

Perennials, roses, herbs, and unusual annuals will be for sale at this always-popular plant sale. Enjoy the spring garden display, guided garden tours and a walk through the historic house. Plant preview begins at 9AM, sale starts promptly at 10AM. FREE to all.

To become a member contact our membership office at 978.921.1944 or visit [www.thetrustees.org](http://www.thetrustees.org)

learn where our milk comes from. Space is limited. Pre-registration required. Members: Adult \$5. Nonmembers: Adult \$10, Family \$15.

### AFTER SCHOOL SERIES

Three consecutive Mondays, May 8, May 15, May 22 | 4–5:30PM

### Appleton Farhands

APPLETON FARMS, IPSWICH/HAMILTON 978.356.5728

Learn the ways of the traditional farmer by helping us with the chores. Have fun and expect to get dirty! For children grades 4-6 accompanied by an adult. Space is limited.

Pre-registration and pre-payment required.

Members: \$36. Nonmembers: \$50.

Saturday, May 13 | 7:30–9PM

### Full Moon Foray

RECOMMENDED FOR FAMILIES

CRANE BEACH AT THE CRANE ESTATE, IPSWICH  
978.356.4351

A moonlit walk on the beach offers a dramatically different view of the land.

Meet at the Beach Gate. Pre-registration required. Space is limited Adult \$5; Family \$10.



Saturday, May 13 & May 20 | 1-3PM

TWO-SESSION WORKSHOP

### Art Meets History

RECOMMENDED FOR FAMILIES

CASTLE HILL AT THE CRANE ESTATE, IPSWICH  
978.356.4351

Artist Laurie Miles will share the art of paper-making and binding to guide you in making a keepsake album. *Pre-registration required. Space is limited. Recommended for ages 8 and over. (Prices include \$5 material fee) Members: \$30; Family \$50. Nonmembers: \$40; Family: \$70.*

### HISTORIC HOUSE TOURS

Sundays, May 14 – October 8 | 1-5PM

Wednesdays, June – August | 2-4PM

#### The Stevens-Coolidge House

THE STEVENS-COOLIDGE PLACE,  
NORTH ANDOVER 978.682.3580

Step back in time at this elegant Colonial Revival estate. *Members: FREE. Nonmembers: Adult \$8; Children (6-12) / Students \$5. Groups by appointment, please. Grounds FREE to all, 8AM-sunset.*

Sundays, June 4 – October 8 | 1-5PM

#### Paine House

GREENWOOD FARM, IPSWICH 978.356.4351

A 1694 house on its original saltwater farm location. Tours focus on architectural construction, archaeology, and the Colonial Revival. *Members: FREE. Nonmembers: Adult \$8; Child (6-12) / Students \$5. Group tours available on other dates by appointment. Grounds FREE to all.*

Wednesdays & Thursdays, May 31 – October 9  
10AM-4PM (Tours are every half hour)

#### The Great House at Castle Hill

CASTLE HILL ON THE CRANE ESTATE, IPSWICH  
978.356.4351

A national treasure of art, history, and culture, the 59-room mansion offers a glimpse of a by-gone era and breathtaking views of Crane

Beach. *Members: FREE. Nonmembers: Adults \$10; Child/Senior/Student: \$8. No reservation necessary, not recommended for children under ten.*

Saturday, May 13 | 7-10AM

### Fly-Fishing Basics

RECOMMENDED FOR FAMILIES

CRANE BEACH AT CRANE ESTATE, IPSWICH  
978.356.4351

Enjoy a morning on the water while the striped bass are running. The First Light Anglers of Rowley will coach beginners. Equipment is provided. Wear rubber boots or waders. Meet at the Beach gate. *Pre-registration required. Space is limited. Members: Adult \$25; Children (under age 18) \$10. Nonmembers: Adult \$30; Children (under age 18) \$15.*

Saturday, May 20 & June 17 | 10AM-2PM

### Choate Island Adventure

CRANE WILDLIFE REFUGE AT CHOATE ISLAND,  
IPSWICH 978.356.4351

Step on Choate Island and step back in time. Farm buildings and fields reveal centuries of agricultural life. Bring a picnic. Shuttle boat departs at 10AM. *Pre-registration required. Members: Adult \$14. Nonmembers: Adult \$20.*

Saturday, June 3 | 6-8PM

### Biodiversity Days

CASTLE NECK AT CRANE ESTATE, IPSWICH  
978.356.4351

Wind and water keep the sands shifting and make survival a challenge in this ever-changing environment. 2-mile ecology walk moderately strenuous. Meet at the Beach gate. Please pre-register. *Members: FREE. Nonmembers: Adult \$5.*

Monday, June 5 – Friday, June 9 | 10AM

### Long Hill Peak Week

LONG HILL, BEVERLY 978.921.1944

Bloomin' gorgeous! Enjoy the gardens at their peak. Daily tours. *FREE to all.*



Thursday, May 18 | 8:30-11AM

### For the Birds

APPLETON FARMS, IPSWICH/HAMILTON  
978.356.5728

The woodlands and wetlands of Appleton Farms and Grass Rides are actively managed for a wide variety of birds. See and hear them on this walk co-sponsored by the Joppa Flats Education Center. Meet at Highland Street parking area.

*Pre-registration required.*

*Members: Adult \$14 (\$24 for two).*

*Nonmembers: Adult \$17 (\$30 for two).*

Thursday, June 8 | 6-8PM

### Beach in Bloom

CRANE BEACH AT CRANE ESTATE, IPSWICH  
978.356.4351

Each summer Woolly Hudsonia carpets the dunes with pale-yellow flowers. Learn how plants protect the dunes from erosion on a 2-mile hike. Moderately strenuous. Binoculars recommended. General beach admission applies. Please pre-register. *Members: FREE. Nonmembers: Adult \$5.*

Saturday, June 10 | 7:30-9:30AM

### Rare Grassland Birds

APPLETON FARMS, IPSWICH/HAMILTON  
978.356.5728

The fields of Appleton Farms provide one of the largest local breeding sites for grassland birds including Bobolinks and rare Eastern Meadowlarks. Meet at Waldingfield Street parking area. *Pre-registration required. Members: FREE. Nonmembers: \$5.*



Massachusetts' top-rated beach is still the biggest bargain in summer fun!\*

And admission is half-price after 3PM!

### NEW SUMMER RATES AT CRANE BEACH

EFFECTIVE MAY 13 -  
SEPTEMBER 10, 2006

Weekend Membership Level	8AM-3PM Per Vehicle	3PM to CLOSE Per Vehicle
Supporting(\$150)	Free	Free
Family(\$65)	\$11	\$5.50
Individual (\$45) [no passengers]	\$11	\$5.50
Individual (\$45) [driver + passenger(s)]	\$15	\$7.50
Non-Member	\$22	\$11
Weekday Membership Level	8AM-3PM Per Vehicle	3PM to CLOSE Per Vehicle
Supporting(\$150)	Free	Free
Family(\$65)	\$7.50	\$3.75
Individual (\$45) [no passengers]	\$7.50	\$3.75
Individual (\$45) [driver + passenger(s)]	\$11.50	\$5.75
Non-Member	\$15	\$7.50



# SOUTHEAST REGION

## Ecosplorations After School Program

### SESSION I

(ages 5-7) Tuesdays, March 14 – April 11  
3:30–5PM

(ages 8-10) Wednesdays, March 15 – April 12  
3:30–5PM

### SESSION II

(ages 5-7) Wednesdays, May 3 – June 7  
3:30–5PM

(ages 8-10) Tuesdays, May 2 – June 6  
3:30–5PM

WORLD'S END, TURKEY HILL, WEIR RIVER FARM,  
HINGHAM 781.740.4796

Join us for this unique after school experience where we sharpen our observation skills in order to uncover the history and ecology of our properties. *Please pre-register.* Members: \$48. Nonmembers: \$66.



TBA (Early April) | 9–10PM

## Salamander Soirée

SOUTHEASTERN MASSACHUSETTS  
BIORESERVE, FALL RIVER 508.679.2115

At first glance, vernal pools might not look like much, but for a few nights each spring these big puddles are teeming with the mating frenzy of wood frogs and spotted salamanders.

*Exact date dependent on weather conditions. Please pre-register for a call before the walk. FREE to all.*

## Spring Outings for Families

### SESSION I

(ages 2-3) Tuesdays, March 14 – April 11  
10–11:30AM

(ages 4-5) Wednesdays, March 15 – April 12  
10–11:30AM

### SESSION II

(ages 4-5) Tuesdays, May 2 – 30 | 10–11:30AM  
(ages 2-3) Wednesdays, May 3 – 31

10–11:30AM

WORLD'S END, HINGHAM, NORRIS RESERVATION,  
NORWELL, WEIR RIVER FARM, HINGHAM

Connect with your child while connecting to these special places. Be surprised at the natural wonders waiting at a variety of our local properties. *Please pre-register by calling 781.740.4796. Members: \$40. Nonmembers: \$55.*

Saturday, March 18 | 9–11AM

## Nest Box Monitoring

SOUTHEASTERN MASSACHUSETTS BIORESERVE  
FALL RIVER 508.679.2115

The Bioreserve provides breeding habitat for many rare species including Eastern Bluebirds, which nest in our volunteer built boxes. Join Shelli Perry from the Westport River Watershed Alliance and help monitor our bluebird population. *Please pre-register. FREE to all.*

Saturday, March 18 | 12NOON–3PM

## Preserving Heritage Breed Livestock

HINGHAM PUBLIC LIBRARY, HINGHAM

Gloucestershire Old-Spot, Suffolk Punch, and Dominiques – these aren't the names of rock bands, they are disappearing breeds of livestock! Learn why Weir River Farm and others are working to preserve them and how you can help. Co-sponsored by 4H and the Marshfield Agricultural & Horticultural Society. *Space Limited. Please pre-register by calling 781.740.4796. Members & nonmembers: \$8.*

Saturday, March 25 | 6–7PM

## Woodcock Wanderings

SOUTHEASTERN MASSACHUSETTS BIORESERVE,  
FALL RIVER 508.679.2115

Some guys will go to great lengths to attract members of the opposite sex. Witness the spectacular courtship display of the American Woodcock with Tom Athearn of Green Futures. *Please pre-register. FREE to all.*

Sunday, April 2 (Rain Date: April 9) | 1–4PM

## Norris Clean Up Day

NORRIS RESERVATION, NORWELL  
781.740.7233

Help us maintain this community gem. Join us for light refreshments and a fun and productive afternoon volunteering at the Norris Reservation. *All ages and skill levels welcome. FREE to all.*

Thursday, April 6 | 6:30–8:30PM

## Children's Summer Program Registration

HINGHAM RECREATION CENTER

210 CENTRAL STREET, HINGHAM

This is your first opportunity to sign your child up for our "Farmhands" and "Young Ecologists" summer programs. For more information, call 781.740.7223.

Saturday, April 8 | 9AM–12NOON

## Trail Building Volunteer Day

SOUTHEASTERN MASSACHUSETTS BIORESERVE  
FALL RIVER 508.679.2115

We can't do it alone, and it's more fun not to! Come help to construct a new trail loop at Copicut Woods complete with a boardwalk across the Miller Brook. *Please pre-register. FREE to all.*

Saturday, April 15 | 10AM–2PM

## Discover the Charles River by Canoe or Kayak

ROCKY NARROWS, SHERBORN  
508.359.7815 (BOB COSTELLO)

Mail your taxes and celebrate with a guided natural history excursion on the Charles. Limited to 10 boats. Meet at Medfield's Route 27 bridge across the Charles. *Pre-registration required by calling Bob. FREE to all.*

Monday, April 17 | 10–11:30AM

Friday, April 21 | 10–11:30AM

## Family Farmhands

WEIR RIVER FARM, HINGHAM 781.740.7233

Our Farmhands program shows children the way of life on the farm through mucking stalls, scrubbing buckets, and feeding the animals. Now the whole family gets a chance! *Space limited. Please pre-register by calling 781.740.4796. Members: FREE. Nonmembers: \$5 per family.*

Monday, April 17 | 12NOON–3PM

Friday, April 21 | 12NOON–3PM

## April Vacation:

### Open Barnyard (Special Hours)

WEIR RIVER FARM, HINGHAM 781.740.7233

You don't need to travel far for vacation adventures! Bring your family and a picnic, then enjoy a hike and visit with our animals. *Members: FREE. Nonmembers: \$3 per person.*



## April Vacation Nature Program

(ages 6-9) Tuesday, April 18–Thursday, April 20  
9AM–12NOON

WORLD'S END, HINGHAM, WHITNEY/THAYER  
WOODS, HINGHAM/COHASSET, NORRIS  
RESERVATION, NORWELL

From the tiniest water bugs to the egg masses of spotted salamanders, we will look for signs of spring in a salt marsh, vernal pool, and pond. *Space limited. Please pre-register by calling 781.740.4796. Members: \$75. Nonmembers: \$90.*

Saturday, April 29 | 1–3PM

### Fish Migrations

LYMAN RESERVE, BOURNE 508.679.2115

The spring-fed waters of Red Brook provide habitat for herring and rare sea-run brook trout that move between fresh and salt water. Warren Winders of Trout Unlimited explores these hidden migrations and how Trustees' management of the forest improves wildlife populations. *Please pre-register. FREE to all.*

Saturday, April 29 | 12NOON–3PM

### Celebration of Spring

WEIR RIVER FARM, HINGHAM 781.740.7233

On the farm, spring has traditionally been a time to come together to plow the soil, plant the crops, and shear the sheep. Celebrate this tradition with your community.  
*Members: FREE. Nonmembers: \$3 per person.*

Saturdays, Beginning in May through Summer  
12NOON–3PM

### Open Barnyard

WEIR RIVER FARM, HINGHAM 781.740.7233

One hundred years ago, family farms were a common sight in Hingham. Come enjoy one of the last examples in town. *Members: FREE. Nonmembers: \$3 per person.*

Saturday, May 6 | 6–9AM

### Birding the Bioreserve

SOUTHEASTERN MASSACHUSETTS BIORESERVE,  
FALL RIVER 508.679.2115

At 13,600 acres, the Bioreserve offers key habitat for forest birds such as the Scarlet Tanager, Wood Thrush and many warblers. Join Fred Thurber of the Paskamansett Bird Club for a walk at the height of the spring migration. *Bring binoculars. Please pre-register. FREE to all.*

Sunday, May 21 | 1–3PM

### Wildflower Walk

SOUTHEASTERN MASSACHUSETTS BIORESERVE,  
FALL RIVER 508.679.2115

The well-drained, acid soils of the Bioreserve are ideal for many late spring wildflowers,

including Pink Lady's Slipper, Birdfoot Violet, and Starflower. Join naturalist Anne Wagner to see what's blooming in the Miller Brook Conservation Area. *Please pre-register. FREE.*

Every Friday through Summer | 9:30–10:30AM  
**Senior Walking Club**

WORLD'S END, HINGHAM 781.740.6665

Join other seniors for a stroll through beautiful World's End every Friday. All abilities welcome. *Rain or shine. FREE to all.*

Wednesdays, June through August | 10–11AM  
**Outdoor Story Hour**

WEIR RIVER FARM, HINGHAM 781.740.7233

Barnyard stories come to life when children get to meet the main characters!  
*Members: FREE. Nonmembers: \$3 per person.*

Saturday, June 3 | 9–11AM

### World's End Rocks!

WORLD'S END, HINGHAM 781.740.6665

If you think you know the history of World's End, step back in time with geologist Lester Tyralla for a look at ancient volcanic and sedimentary bedrock of the Boston Basin. Sturdy footwear required. *Members: FREE. Nonmembers: Admission to World's End.*

## WESTERN REGION

March and April  
**Ski Notchview**

NOTCHVIEW, WINDSOR 413.684.0148

At nearly 3,000 feet, Notchview often has snow into March and April. It can still be a great time of the year to Nordic ski!  
*Members: FREE. Nonmembers: Adult \$10; Child \$3.*

Wednesday, March 22 | 7–9PM

**The Rest of the River:  
PCB Clean-up of the Housatonic  
in Southern Berkshire County**

BARTHOLOMEW'S COBBLE, SHEFFIELD 413.229.8600

Over the next two years a plan for restoring the Housatonic River in Southern Berkshire County will take form. Join Tim Gray of The Housatonic River Initiative for a recap of the PCB clean-up in Pittsfield and presentation on the prospects for cleaning the rest of the river. *Please pre-register. FREE to all.*

Saturday, April 8 | 10AM–12:30PM

### Vernal Pool Certification

BARTHOLOMEW'S COBBLE, SHEFFIELD 413.229.8600

Vernal pools are crucial for the survival of wood frogs, fairy shrimp, spotted salamanders and many other species. Come learn what it

takes to certify and protect these special places. We'll visit a vernal pool at the Cobble – dress for playing in a puddle. *Please pre-register. Members: \$10. Nonmembers: \$15.*

Every Thursday, mid-April–October  
9–11:30AM

### Volunteer Work Party

BARTHOLOMEW'S COBBLE, SHEFFIELD  
413.229.8600

Work with staff to remove exotic invasive species. Learn how to identify and conserve our native species. *Call for more information. FREE to all.*

Tuesday, April 11 | 7PM

### Reptiles of the CT River Valley

HOLYOKE HERITAGE STATE PARK VISITORS CENTER  
HOLYOKE 413.534.1732

Mt. Tom is home to an array of reptiles, both common and rare. Herpetologist Tom Tynning shares his research on the life history, distribution, and conservation of the region's turtles and snakes. Co-sponsored with Holyoke Children's Museum and Holyoke Heritage State Park. *Pre-register. \$5 donation appreciated.*

Saturday, April 15 (Rain or Shine)  
9AM–1PM

### Volunteer Work Day at Bartholomew's Cobble

BARTHOLOMEW'S COBBLE, SHEFFIELD 413.229.8600

Help spruce up the Cobble for the coming season! Projects include trail/bridge maintenance and general spring clean up. Lunch is provided; drinks and side dishes are appreciated! Please let us know you are coming – we don't want you to go hungry. *FREE to all.*

Saturday, April 22 | 9AM–12NOON

### Little Tom Field Restoration Workday

LITTLE TOM MOUNTAIN, HOLYOKE 413.532.1631 X13

Help us restore the old field and enhance the diversity of plants and animals at Little Tom by putting your muscles to work on our latest restoration project. *Please pre-register.*

Saturdays, April 22 & 29 | 10AM–12NOON  
**Life in a Vernal Pool**

BARTHOLOMEW'S COBBLE, SHEFFIELD 413.229.8600

Explore life in our spring ponds. Look for egg masses of wood frogs and salamanders. Search for fairy shrimp and fingernail clams. Learn about the ecology of these complex natural communities. Come prepared to have fun and get wet and muddy. *Please pre-register. Members: \$4. Nonmembers: \$6.*





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Monday, May 29, Sunday June 4 & 11 | 9AM–12NOON

## Housatonic Paddle

BARTHOLOMEW'S COBBLE, SHEFFIELD 413.229.8600

Paddle the winding Housatonic with a naturalist/guide and explore the rich and varied life of the river. Look for bald eagles, great blue herons, kingfishers and bank swallows. Bring a hat, sunscreen, water and binoculars. All other equipment is provided.

Please pre-register. Members: Adult \$15, Child (10–16) \$10.

Nonmembers: Adult \$25, Child (10–16) \$15.

Sundays, April 23 – May 28 | 8–10AM

## Bird Walk: Spring Migration

BARTHOLOMEW'S COBBLE, SHEFFIELD 413.229.8600

Explore the woods and fields at the Cobble as birds arrive from the south. Birders of all levels are welcome. Bring binoculars. Coffee and tea available at the Visitor's Center. Please pre-register. Members: FREE. Nonmembers: Adult \$6; Child \$3.

Saturday, April 29 (Rain or Shine) | 9AM–1PM

## Annual Chapelbrook Workday

CHAPELBROOK, ASHFIELD 413.684.0148

Help the AMC climbing group improve the Climber's Trail at Pony Mountain. Your reward is doughnuts, water, and watching them scale the cliff when the work is done. *FREE to all.*

Sunday, April 30 & May 7 | 10:30AM–12NOON

Saturday, May 6 | 10:30AM–12NOON

Mother's Day, May 14 | 10:30AM–12NOON

## Spring Wildflowers

BARTHOLOMEW'S COBBLE, SHEFFIELD 413.229.8600

In May, the Cobble bursts into bloom with a remarkable array of wildflowers – Hepatica, Spring Beauty, Dutchman's Breeches, Cut-leaved Toothwort, Red and White Trillium and more. Learn how they are specially adapted to complete their life cycle before the trees leaf out. Please pre-register. Members: Adult / Child \$4. Nonmembers: Adult / Child \$6.

Saturday, May 6 | 9AM–12NOON

## Trail Building at Little Tom

LITTLE TOM MOUNTAIN, HOLYOKE 413.532.1631 X13

Little Tom Reservation won't be open to the public for a few years, but we are beginning to build a network of trails. Join us for the inaugural trail building workday at Little Tom Mountain.

Sunday May 7 | 10AM–3PM

## The Natural and Cultural History of Monroe State Forest

413.268.8219

The Highlands of western Massachusetts are unspoiled and scenic. Hike one the Highlands' hidden gems and experience the natural and cultural history of this unique region.

Members: \$10. Nonmembers: \$15.

Call or email [jchristensen@ttor.org](mailto:jchristensen@ttor.org) to register.

Saturday, May 13 | 11AM–1:30PM

## Wild Edibles

BARTHOLOMEW'S COBBLE, SHEFFIELD 413.229.8600

Learn to identify dozens of edible wild plants, how to collect them ethically, and how to incorporate them into your own cuisine.

Please pre-register. Members: Adult \$6; Child \$3

Nonmembers: Adult \$8; Child \$4.

Sunday, May 21 | 1–4PM

## Mt. Tom Ramble

LITTLE TOM MOUNTAIN, HOLYOKE 413.532.1631 X13

The Mt. Tom landscape is a glorious network of protected open space. Explore the natural and cultural history of Little Tom and the Mt. Tom State Reservation on this moderate hike.

Wear sturdy footwear and please pre-register.

Weekdays in May

## Garlic Mustard vs.

## Mustard White Butterfly



BRYANT HOMESTEAD, CUMMINGTON 413.684.0148

NOTCHVIEW, WINDSOR 413.684.0148

Help us slay the garlic mustard and protect the rare Mustard White butterfly.

Call for dates.

## HISTORIC HOUSE OPENINGS

Open daily, May 27 – Columbus Day

10AM–5PM

## Naumkeag

STOCKBRIDGE 413.298.3239

Guided house tours of the Choate family summer home. Enjoy the beautiful gardens designed by Fletcher Steele. Members: FREE.

Nonmembers: Adult \$10; Child \$3.

Open daily, May 27 – Columbus Day

10AM–5PM

## The Mission House

STOCKBRIDGE 413.298.3239

Visit the 18th century home of John Sergeant, first missionary to the Stockbridge Indians.

Members: FREE. Nonmembers: Adult \$6; Child \$3.

Open Saturdays and Sundays

May 27 – Columbus Day | 10AM–5PM

## The Colonel John Ashley House

SHEFFIELD 413.298.3239

Built in 1735, the Ashley House was the home of Mumbet, an enslaved African-American who successfully sued for her freedom in 1781.

Members: FREE. Nonmembers: Adult \$5; Child \$3.

Saturday, June 10 & 17 | 8:30–10PM

## Nighttime Insects

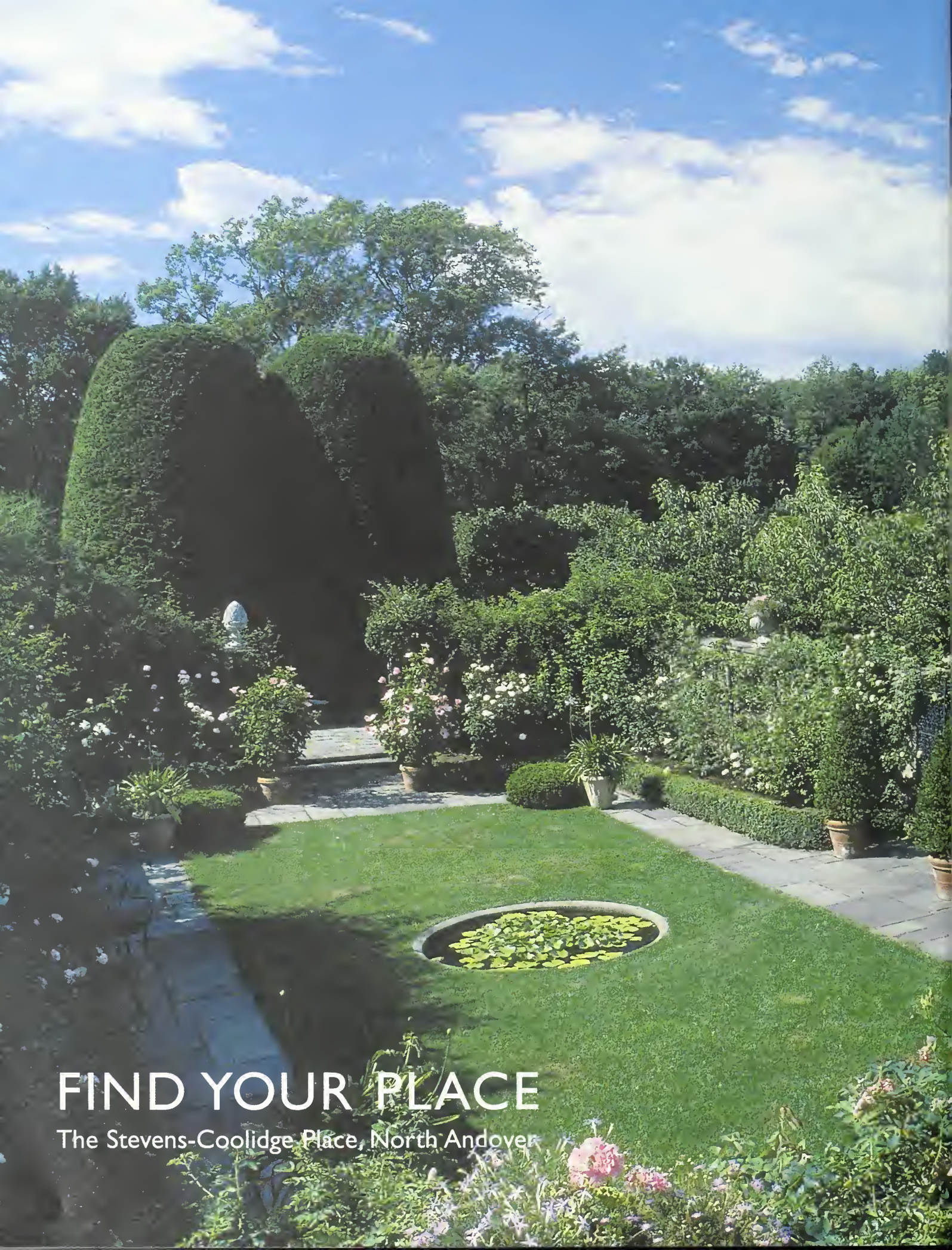
BARTHOLOMEW'S COBBLE, SHEFFIELD 413.229.8600

The night is alive with insects! Using a black light we will attract longhorn beetles, sphinx moths and luna moths. Admire their uncommon beauty and learn how insects interact with our local plants and animals.

Please pre-register. Members: Adult / Child \$4.

Nonmembers: Adult / Child \$6.





# FIND YOUR PLACE

The Stevens-Coolidge Place, North Andover







# OUR PLACE IN YOUR HERITAGE



## FIND YOUR PLACE

Together with our neighbors, we protect the distinct character of our communities and inspire a commitment to special places. Our passion is to share with everyone the irreplaceable natural and cultural treasures we care for.



### Special PLACES

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